THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): (a) to (f) While finalising the agreements with the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for the bulk supply of power from the Ramagundam Super Thermal Power Station, the States in the Southern Region had expressed reservations on the proposed tariff with particular reference to the capital costs, fuel oil consumption, rate of return and heat rate per unit of energy produced. The States in the Eastern Region (particularly West Bengal) had suggested that the plant load factor may be fixed at 63 per cent in the bulk power supply agreements in respect of Farakka Super Thermal Power Station of the NTPC without regard to the constraints in achieving the same in the Eastern Region. Discussions on these issues were held in December, 1984, February, 1985 and July, 1985. As a result of these discussions, the bulk power supply agreements with the States in the Southern and Eastern Regions have been concluded between March and August, 1985.

Some of the States have also suggested that a uniform tariff, on All India basis, may be adopted for the supply of power from the Super Thermal Power Stations of the NTPC. In order to examine this issue of uniformity of tariff, the Central Government have constituted a Committee in February, 1985 which has held discussions subsequently, *inter-alia*, with Chairmen of some Electricity Boards. This Committee is likely to submit its Report shortly.

Maternity Leave to Women Post and Telegraphs employees

2117. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the directives of the Director General of Post and Telegraphs to his General Managers not to grant maternity leave to women employees who have not changed their names after marriage or have not submitted a marriage certificate alongwith their applications for leave or if the applicant is an unmarried mother;

(b) if so, what is the opinion of Government in this matter;

(c) whether the Employees State Insurance Scheme Act and Maternity Benefit Act of 1961 have provisions for any of the aforesaid aspects; and

(d) if not, whether the DGPT can insist upon either of the same through his order or deny maternity leave to an unmarried mother?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) DG P&T (TELECOM. DEPTT) have not issued directions to its field units not to grant maternity leave to women employees who have not changed their names after marriage or not submitted a marriage certificate alongwith their application. The instructions have however been issued to all the field units under the Department of Telecom, not to grant maternity leave to unmarried female Government servants.

(b) The Government has no opinion in view of (a) above.

(c) The Employees State Insurance Act 1948 and Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 have no provisions on the aforesaid aspects.

(d) Though it is not mentioned in the Rules that a female Government servant should be married to be entitled for maternity leave, it is obviously implied that she should be married for such entitlement.

Production, import and export of cement

2118. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cement produced, imported and exported during the last three years;

(b) the price per tonne of levy cement and free sale cement year-wise, during the same period;

(c) on how many occasions during the same period the prices of levy cement and free sale cement have been enhanced and the extent of enhancement on each occasion; and

(d) the total amount of additional resources in rupees realised through enhancement of cement prices, year-wise, during the some period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) The production imports and exports of cement from 1982 83 tot 1984-85 are given below:—

(Figures in lakh tonnes)

Year	Qty. of cement production	Qty. of cement exported	Qty. of cement imported
1982-83	233·23	0·04947	15·43
1983-84	270·71	0·10306	23·85
1984-85	301·74	0·42392	03·74

(b) There are two categories of Cement *viz.* levy cement, non-levy cement available to the consumers.

Levy Cement is under price and distribution control. The FOR price of levy cement from 1982-83 to 1984-85 exluding excise duty and packing charges has been as under:—

(in Rupees)

Year	Period	Price for OPC & Slag Cement	Price for PPC
1982-83	..	440·00	425·00
1983-84	1-4-83 to 1-7-83	440·00	425·0
	2-7-83 to 31-3-84	492·00	477·00
1984-85	1-4-84 to 17-6-84	492·00	477·00
	18-6-84 to 31-3-85	532·00	517·00

NOTE:—The packing charges are being fixed for each quarter on the basis of price of jute during the preceding three months.

Free Sale cement

There is no price control on Non-levy Cement. Actual market price fluctuates from place to place and on day-to-day basis. Cement Manufacturers' Association, however, have fixed upper ceiling for free sale cement as under:—

States	Upto 28-2-1983	1-3-83 to 21-1-85	22nd Jan. '85 onwards
Kerala, Maharashtra, J & K, Assam and North Eastern States	60·00	64·00	69·00
All other States	56·00	60·00	65·00

NOTE:—Above retail prices are inclusive of rail freight upto the destination railhead, central sale tax, stockists' margin but are exclusive of local sale tax and local levies.

(c) The FOR price of levy cement was increased from 1982-83 below:—

Period	F.O.R increased	Remarks
1982	NIL	
1983-84 2-7-83	Rs. 52.00 per tonne	This was on account of incidence of increase in rail freight rates.
1984-85 18-7-84	Rs. 40.00 per tonne	This was on account of increase in the retention price given to industry to compensate for the increase in prices of inputs.

As regards non-levey cement, it is free from price and distribution control from 28-2-1982.

(d) The increase in FOR price has been granted on account of increase in the cost of production/increase in rail freight rates. No assessment has been made in regard to the additional resources realised through enhancement of cement prices yearwise from 1982-83.

Cement production target

2119. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target set for the production of cement in the country for the current year; and

(b) what is the actual production of cement during the same period with details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) The target of production of cement for the current year 1985-86 has been fixed at 33.5 million tonnes.

(b) Actual production of cement during the first seven months (April-October' 85) of the current financial year was about 18.52 million tonnes.

Incentives to MRTP Companies to set up industries in backward areas

2120. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to give new incentives to ensure